

PAY OF THE FLORIDA MILITIA.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 516.]

JULY 1, 1842.

Mr. PENDLETON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom were referred certain estimates submitted by the Secretary of War on account of claims for services performed by the militia of Florida called into service by the Governor of that Territory in 1839 and 1840, report :

That Governor Call was, on 1st March, 1839, authorized by Mr. Poinsett, then Secretary of War, to call into active service, whenever the emergency arises, an effective military force of three hundred men ; that, on the 30th of August, 1839, Major S. Cooper, acting Secretary of War, wrote to General Taylor and Governor Call, authorizing them, without delay, to raise an additional militia force of three hundred men. In pursuance of this authority, it is alleged that seven companies of militia were called into service, for the pay of which, and of Lieutenant Colonel Bailey and staff, and Major Bailey and staff, and of the officers attached to the quartermaster's department, the estimates now under consideration were submitted to the committee.

From the papers submitted to the committee, it does not appear that any of the said seven companies were mustered by any officer of the United States army, either when received into the service or when discharged.

1. Major Bailey and staff were mustered by Governor Call, in person, on the 8th day of October, 1839, who certifies that they served for the period therein specified, and for which the estimates now submitted were made. The said staff included William Bailey, major, J. McCourt, adjutant, and James H. Randolph and John H. Verdin, assistant surgeons.

2. Quartermaster's staff, comprising John B. Collins, quartermaster, and L. F. Mosker, S. J. Perry, and John Shaw, assistant quartermasters, were mustered by Samuel Parkhill, adjutant and inspector general of the Florida militia, on the 31st December, 1839, who certifies that they were in active service during the time charged.

3. Muster roll of Lieutenant Colonel Bailey and staff, signed by Colonel Bailey, and certified by Governor Call, was also submitted to the committee. It comprises Lieutenant Colonel Bailey, Lewis Norton, adjutant, and Elias E. Blackburn, major, with their respective periods of service. Attached to this muster roll is an affidavit of Lieutenant Colonel Bailey, dated 4th of April, 1842, in which he says that, on the 7th day of August, 1840, he was mustered into the United States service, as colonel, from the 20th of the

preceding May. The said muster roll states the service of William Bailey, as lieutenant colonel, and his staff, terminated on the 19th of May, 1840. Accompanying this affidavit there is a report of the number of companies of militia in the Territorial service under the command of William J. Bailey, as major and lieutenant colonel, from October 9, 1839, to May 20, 1840, (except his own company, from 20th May to 20th September, 1839,) with the names of the captains and times of service of the respective companies. This report, in the affidavit aforesaid, Colonel Bailey swears is a true return of the said companies, from October 9, 1839, to 20th August, 1840, so far as he knows and can make it by papers and dates in his possession; and that the muster roll of himself, as lieutenant colonel, and staff, is true in all its parts.

The companies referred to in said affidavit are the following:

1. Captain Grigsby.—This company was mustered by Captain Grigsby himself, as mounted volunteers, on the 20th February, 1840, and on the same day inspected by Colonel John Graham, adjutant and inspector general of Florida militia, as appears by their respective certificates. This roll is not verified by affidavit. It contains the names of the captain, first and second lieutenants, and forty-three privates. Their term of service expired on the 20th of February, 1840.

2. Captain Hagan's company was received into the service by Governor Call on the 25th day of August, 1839, and was mustered out of service on the 24th of December, 1839, by Colonel J. B. Collins, quartermaster of Florida militia. There is an affidavit by Hagan, stating that he was ordered by Governor Call to raise a company.

3. Captain McIver's company.—Mustered by McIver and J. Graham, assistant inspector general of the Florida militia. There is an affidavit of McIver and certificate of Governor Call, that this company was draughted and received into the service.

4. Captain Langford's company.—It appears from the papers that, on the 27th January, 1840, Governor Reid accepted the services of Captain Langford and his company, in behalf of the Territory, so soon as they should be mustered out of the United States service. They were mustered into the service on the 2d February, 1840, and discharged 13th July following.

5. Captain Hall's company.—Governor Call certifies that he received into the service Captain Hall's company, and that they are entitled to pay for three months.

6. Captain Burney's company.—The muster roll is dated November 24, 1840, and certified by Captain Burney and John Graham, adjutant and inspector general of the Florida militia. They ask pay for nine months, from 25th February, 1840. Colonel Churchill is of opinion that this company should not be paid for any time after the 1st of August, 1840. Captain Burney swears that the company was raised by an order from Governor Reid, dated 18th or 20th of February, 1840, which order has been mislaid. Colonel Bailey swears that Burney's company was part of his command from 25th February to 24th November, 1840, during which time it was in the service of the Territory.

7. Captain Bailey's company was raised by order of Governor Call, by whom the officers were mustered, and the men by Captain Bailey.

By order of the Secretary of War, dated March 9, 1842, Colonel Churchill, inspector general, proceeded to Florida to ascertain the number of troops

called out under the order of the Government of Florida during the years 1839 and 1840, and all the particulars relating to their service. In obedience to this order, Colonel Churchill has procured a mass of testimony, from which the preceding statements have been extracted. In the opinion of the committee, the interests of the United States will be best protected by referring the accounts of those companies to the proper accounting officers, to pay such, and such only, as shall be sufficiently supported. Accompanying this report are estimates from the various bureaus of the War Department.

For the purpose of effecting a settlement of these claims, the committee report a bill.

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ended 1901 and all the particulars relating to their service. In ob-
serving the order, Colonel Churchill has prepared a report of testimony
in which the preceding statements have been examined. In the opinion
of the committee, the findings of the United States will be best presented
by placing the accounts of those companies in the proper accounting off-
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regarding this report are estimated from the various sources of the War
Department.

In the purpose of effecting a settlement of these claims, the committee
has a bill.

The bill is intended to provide for the settlement of the claims of the
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